

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MATERIALS TRANSPORTATION BUREAU WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

3598

[49 CFR Parts 173, 179]

[Docket No. HM-125; Notice No. 75-4]

PROHIBITION OF NEW CONSTRUCTION OF SPECIFICATION DOT-112A AND 114A UNIN-SULATED PRESSURE TANK CAR TANKS

Withdrawl of Notice

AGENCY: Materials Transportation Bureau (the Bureau), DOT.

ACTION: Withdrawal of Notice No. 75-4.

SUMMARY: Notice 75-4 in Docket No. HM-125, published in the FEDERAL REGISTER on April 23, 1975 (40 FR 17853), which, proposed amendments to §§ 173.314 and 179.101 of the Hazardous Materials Regulations to prohibit new construction of DOT specification 112A and 114A uninsulated tank car tanks for use in the transportation of hazardous materials, is being withdrawn as no longer necessary in light of amendments published by the Bureau on September 15, 1977 under Docket HM-144 (42 FR 46306).

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 26, 1978. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

William F. Black, Office of Safety, Federal Railroad Administration, Washington, D.C. 202-426-2748.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice 75-4 in Docket HM-125 was published by the Hazardous Materials Regulations Board and developed in response to several rail accidents involving DOT specification 112A and 114A tank car tanks, which had result-

ed in loss of life and substantial property damage. However, subsequent to issuance of Notice 75-4, the Bureau proposed more extensive amendments concerning modification of construction standards and criteria for the use of such tank car tanks (Docket HM-144; Notice 76-12; 41 FR 52324).

Notice 76-12 was the basis for the amendments published by the Burcau on September 15, 1977. These amendments addressed the concerns expressed in Notice 75-4 by requiring for all 112A and 114A tank car tanks: (1) bottom and top shelf couplers; (2) headshields or protective headjackets on those tank car tanks used to transport anhydrous ammonia and flammable gases; and (3) thermal protection on those tank car tanks used to transport flammable gases. In light of this action, the preamble to the final rule stated:

As was indicated in the notice, with the promulgation of standards and specifications upgrading existing specification 112 and 114 so as to improve design and construction, the Burcau will withdraw Notice 75-4, under Docket HM-125.

Accordingly, the Bureau hereby withdraws Notice 75-4 under Docket No. 125.

(49 U.S.C. 1804; 49 CFR 1.53(e))

Issued in Washington, D.C. on January 18, 1978.

ALAN I. ROBERTS,
Director, Office of
Hazardous Materials Operations.
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